



City of Wichita

Wichita Police Department

Monthly Report

February 2006

Officers take the Plunge for Special Olympics



More than \$6,500 was raised for Special Olympics at the Polar Bear Plunge.

more than \$6,500 for Special Olympics. Law Enforcement participants included: Sgt. Diane Varnell, Officers Generro Arroyo, Ian Wolfe, Robert Thatcher, Lori Kimrey-Johnson, Sandy Mackey and Sean Robinson; Recruit Officers Thomas Rice, David McDanel, Justin Henke and Kari Shorb, SO Detective Brad McCaffree, SO Detention Officer Lynette Woodard and Airport Safety Recruit Brandon Willis.



A large crowd gathered for the Polar Bear Plunge at Marcos Cantina.

Inside this issue:

Get With the Beat!	2
Did you know...	3
Office James in Iraq	4
Air Section has Banner year in 2005	5
WPD promotions	6
Knowledge of fence house leads to arrest	7

A good-sized crowd of people braved the cold on Feb. 25 and turned out for the annual Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics at Marcos Cantina, 6600 W. Central.

Even though the plunge was scheduled for noon, it was still very cold with a brisk wind keeping the wind chill factor well below freezing—just right for plunging! Participants raised

Special points of interest:

The television show COPS is slated to return to Wichita this summer!

Goodwill thieves caught during special assignment

Officers from the Patrol North Bureau conducted a special assignment to address the large number of thefts that were occurring at the drop-off at the Goodwill Industries store located on the 46 beat at 3636 N. Oliver.

Second, third, fourth

watch and community police officers, as well as a representative from the business, worked together to address the issue with excellent results.

They started the assignment with a briefing at 6 p.m. on Feb. 12 and set up the donation area at the store with eight bags

of clothing, a dresser, a bike, and an end table.

They began the assignment around 7 p.m. and in four hours arrested nine individuals and cleared two warrants.

Officer Al Ward coordinated the effort.

Follow-up leads to second burglary suspect and clears multiple cases

(by Lt. Chuck Loftis)

A string of residential garage burglaries on the 31 and 38 beats, as well as a number on the south side of town, kept police busy the first part of February. The burglaries involved a stolen truck that was taken from an address on east Chatfield. The suspects broke into a residence next door on east Chatfield, which was being remodeled, and took power tools. The suspects then committed several other burglaries on both east and south sides of town.

Third Shift Officers arrested a 37-year-old man after he and an unknown male broke into a detached garage in the 3400 block of east Murdock. Officer Gabriel Ohmart passed on this information to Officer Maurice

Mitchell prior to his shift. Officer Mitchell was familiar with the suspect so he contacted Lt. Barry Von Fange in the Burglary Section and got permission to interview the suspect at the jail.

The suspect provided additional information to Officer Mitchell and after some outstanding follow-up, a second suspect was developed.

Officer Mitchell contacted suspect number two's father, who said he didn't know where his son (the suspected burglar) was. However, he got on the phone and called one of his son's friends who lives in the 300 block of N. Estelle and con-

able to successfully identify an exact address.

The suspect was confirmed on a Kansas Department of Corrections warrant, and Officers Mitchell, Long Nguyen, Christopher Nixon, Brian Nelson and Sgt. Bruce Watts, along with Parole Officer Evans contacted and arrested the suspect at the residence on north Estelle. The Officers also recovered stolen property under two different cases.

The suspect was booked into jail for burglary, theft and auto theft.

Detective Tim Mitchell, Burglary Section, advised that the suspect is connected to at least seven burglaries and several larcenies.

This was an outstanding job on the part of the Beat Team members working together, and with investigations personnel, to solve and reduce crime trends on their beat.

Officer Mitchell demonstrated the Department's values and mission by working in partnership with not only his beat team, but was able to gain the trust and respect of the suspect's father and even the first suspect who had not been cooperative with arresting officers the night before.

Officer Mitchell did outstanding follow-up demonstrating his problem solving and initiative to go above and beyond in his duties as a patrol officer.



firmed that the suspect was at that residence.

Officer Mitchell did some follow-up on the phone number the dad called, and was

Did You Know.....

During the month of February, WPD members received 45 CPRs that were generated internally and 34 that were generated externally.

The Professional Standards Bureau opened one external complaint on members of the Department during February. There were eight internal complaints filed against Department employees.

In the month of February, Field Services personnel issued 5,080 moving citations and 1,922 parking citations.

In February, the Awards Committee approved 57 awards. Of those, 46 went to Field Services, nine to Investigations and one to Support Services. More than half, 60 percent, of the Awards given were for traditional policing, with 40 percent going for community policing projects.

Chief Norman Williams and Lt. Jeff Easter traveled to Topeka on Feb. 9 and testified in front of the Senate Judiciary Committee on SB 458 Street Gang Prevention. The proposed legislation would provide a definition of a gang member,



WPD staff met on Feb. 16 to discuss robbery trends throughout the city.

make gang recruitment a crime, and raise the bond amount for gang members arrested for violent persons crimes.

The 34th session of the Citizen Police Academy began on Feb. 27 with 22 participants. Lt. Darrell Atteberry and Sgt. Jeff Holtz (SCSO) are coordinating the class.

A Neighborhood Oriented Traffic Enforcement (NOTE) complaint was opened by Officer Raymond Alverson between the 1600 and 3100 block west on Kellogg. Three LIDAR assignments have been conducted and a total of 140 tickets have been written. This area continues to be a high accident location so the Beat

Team will continue to work this area.

A few months ago Officer Travis Gerlach responded to a disturbance involving a 12-year-old autistic child. It turned out that the child was being teased by neighborhood kids and he became upset and chased them. During his contact with the boy, Officer Gerlach noticed his fear of police, and the child's mother reported that the child had a bad experience with a police officer and now fears police. Officer Gerlach made arrangements to take the child to ride go-carts in hopes that it would help him to overcome his fear of the Police. He took the child to All Star Sports and spent \$75 of his own money to treat the boy to go-carts and video games.



New City Hall Security staff completed their training and received their certificates during a ceremony on Feb. 10.

Security Staff have been working at the information desk on first floor and in other areas of the Police Department until the work on the Atrium is complete.



Officer James still in Iraq

Officer Terence James poses with the Christmas gift box he received from his fellow officers at Patrol West. Terence has been stationed in Iraq for several months and will not return stateside and back to WPD until November.

Fortunately, he is stationed with a number of other WPD Officers who are currently service active military duty, so he's in good company.

Well-wishers can write to Terence at:

Sgt. Terence James
B Co 2—137th Inf
APO AE 09342-1400

Or he can receive e-mail at: bigjaychs32@yahoo.com

"Victim" turns into a suspect after making false reports

Detective Warren Dalrymple was assigned a case in which a man reported he was the victim of a highway robbery when he was approached by two men armed with a handgun who demanded his cash.

The man also reported that

he was the victim of a residential robbery when two male suspects entered his residence, beat him, then allegedly took \$22. The victim was interviewed and confessed that the incident did not occur. He admitted he has prostitutes and drugs delivered to him

at his residence, and that the losses reported in those incidents were a result of the contractual negotiations for those services. Detective Dalrymple cleared both cases and charged the so-called victim with making a false police report.

Patrol South Officers locate suspects in drive-by

A shooting incident between rival gang members occurred in the southeast part of Wichita in late January, and WPD Gang detectives conducted an internal, informational briefing on Feb. 2, providing details of the suspects wanted in connection to the crime.

The Gang Unit was looking for three known gang members in connection with the drive-by shooting.

Patrol South Officers Joseph Springob, Clayton Schuler, Pat

Boucard and Randy Williamson checked several residences in South City looking for the suspects, contacting relatives and friends of the wanted persons.



Through diligent, relentless police work they were able to receive information from street sources of the location of all three suspects over a period of approximately seven days.

The Officers utilized resources to apprehend three dangerous suspects involved in gang activity. Detective Jeff Gilmore stated the quick response by the Patrol South team, and the arrest of the suspects in a timely manner, prevented the escalation of possible gang retaliation.

WPD Air Section has banner year in 2005

The Wichita Police Department's Air Section had a banner year in 2005, which also just happened to be the Air Section's 35th Anniversary.

According to Lt. Paul Shields, that is quite a milestone within the

airborne law enforcement community as there aren't many air support units throughout the country that can boast that kind of longevity.

In 2005 the Air Section provided 906.2 hours of air support. This was the most annual flight time flown since 1991 — and that was when the Department had two fully operational helicopters instead of just one.

Also in 2005, the Air Section was on scene for 857 apprehensions (investigative detentions and/or arrests), with many of those be-

ing the direct result of observations or spots made by the Unit.

The Air Section responded to, and assisted with, 89 Foot chases.

Additionally, the Air Section responded to 35 vehicle pursuits and played an active role in 15 of them. Those 15 pursuits with direct air support, resulted in a full 100 percent apprehension rate with 17 arrests, and no damage to police vehicles, suspect, or innocent, third party civilian accidents and no injuries.

The Air Section had an average "First Unit On Scene" response rate of 99.94 percent in 2005.



Recovered automobile leads to arrest for identity theft

On Feb. 11 a 49-year-old man reported that he had received a letter from a local car dealership congratulating him on the purchase of a new car. The only problem was, he had not purchased a new car.

The victim discovered that someone had stolen his identity and had not only purchased a 2006 Dodge Charger from Davis Moore, but had already accrued more than \$60,000 in debt in his name.

Just a couple of days later, Officer Michael Tiday was sent to follow-up on an abandoned vehicle in the 3000 block of east English. The vehicle was a 2006 Dodge Charger, with dealership stickers and a 30-day tag on it.

Officer Tiday contacted a representative from the car dealership, who arrived with a photo of the suspect who had purchased the vehicle. He told Officer Tiday the vehicle had been purchased by an unknown male using false identification. Officer Tiday also recovered a fake ID in the vehicle.

While he was investigating the vehicle, Officer Tiday noticed a female who kept peeking out her door watching them and then going back inside. Officer Tiday attempted to make contact with her, but when he knocked on the door instead of the woman answering, the person depicted in the fake ID found inside the car answered. Also inside the residence was the other suspect who had used false

identification to purchase the car.

Detective Michael Thode, Financial Crimes, was able to get the suspect charged with identity theft and felony theft.

The victim was extremely pleased to finally identify the suspect who had ruined his credit and ran up the enormous amount of debt in his name. Had it not been for the keen observations and diligence by Officer Tiday this suspect would have continued his crime wave and probably ruined the credit of other hard working honest citizens in our community



Wichita Police make several promotions

The Wichita Police Department is pleased to announce the following promotions:



Detective Kevin Mears has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Sgt. Mears is a 14-year veteran of the Department and

most recently worked as an investigator in the Auto Theft section. During his career with the Department, Sgt. Mears has been the recipient of the Silver Wreath of Valor and two Bronze Wreaths of Merit. In his new position, Sgt. Mears will be assigned to the Patrol West Bureau as a supervisor.



Officer David Crump has been promoted to the rank of Detective. Detective Crump is a 15-year veteran of the Department and most recently worked as a Patrol South Beat Officer. During his career with the Department, Detective Crump has been the recipient of the Bronze Wreath of Merit, the Distinguished Service Award and the five-year Safe Driving Award. Detective Crump has been assigned to the Robbery Section.



Officer Dana McElrath has been promoted to the rank of Detective. Detective McElrath is a 10-year veteran of the Department and most recently worked

as a Crime Prevention Officer in the Community Affairs Bureau. During his career with the Department, Detective McElrath has been the recipient of the Civic Achievement Award. Detective McElrath has a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Detective McElrath is also a member of the Honor Guard. He has been assigned to the Financial Crimes section.



Officer Jason Pfeifer has been promoted to the rank of Detective. Detective Pfeifer is an eight-year veteran of the Department and most recently worked

as a Patrol Officer in the Patrol North Bureau. During his career with the Police Department, Detective Pfeifer has been the recipient of two Bronze Wreaths of Merit, the Lifesaving Award, the Police Shield, the Distinguished Service Award and the five-year Safe Driving Award. Detective Pfeifer has a Bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice. Detective Pfeifer is also a member of the

Department's EOD team. He has been assigned to the Sex Crimes/DV Section.



Officer Lenny Rose has been promoted to the rank of Detective. Detective Rose is a 12-year veteran of the Department and most recently

worked as a Beat Coordinator in the Patrol South Bureau. During his career with the Police Department, Detective Rose has been the recipient of two Life Saving Awards and two Distinguished Service Awards. Detective Rose is a member of the Department's Critical Accident Team. He has been assigned to the Sex Crimes/DV section.



Officer Dave Wertz has been promoted to the rank of Detective. Detective Wertz is a 13-year veteran of the Department and most recently worked

as a Beat Coordinator in the Patrol West Bureau. During his career with the Police Department, Detective Wertz has been the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award and the five and 10-year Safe Driving Award. Detective Wertz is also a member of the Department's Mounted Unit. Detective Wertz has been assigned to the Auto Theft Section.

City of Wichita

**WPD employees
gather in the 5th
Floor Briefing Room
for promotions.**

**(For more on promotions
see page 6)**

Promotions



Officer's knowledge of fence house leads to arrest

(by Sgt. Michael Zajkowski)

On the last day of 2005, Patrol West Officers were dispatched to the report of a larceny in progress at the Quik Trip, located at 6011 W. Central.

Employees there reported to Officer Zachary Schultz that a man had entered the store, walked behind the sales counter and began taking cartons of cigarettes from the display. An employee confronted the suspect and tried to take the cigarettes from him, but the suspect pushed her away.

The suspect walked toward the front door where he was confronted by a customer who attempted to stop him. The suspect put his hand in his pocket and said "I should shoot you dead" before running away from the store.

Officer Anthony Klumpp heard

the dispatcher request a Crime Scene Investigator to assist Patrol West officers at the Quik Trip. Officer Klumpp had knowledge of a string of these type of robberies and he knew of a residence in the 1400 block of N. Hillside where the stolen cigarettes were being sold. He obtained the suspect and vehicle description, and then drove to the area where he observed what he thought was the suspect vehicle.

Officer Klumpp followed the vehicle until backup arrived and then stopped it in the 1000 block of E. 21st N.

The vehicle was occupied by three men, and next to the one in the back seat was a wadded up jacket. The jacket matched the description of the jacket the suspect was wearing during the robbery of the Quik Trip. He also

observed a new pack of Marlboro Light cigarettes on the seat which was the brand taken in the robbery.

Sgt. Michael Zajkowski, Patrol North, coordinated with Sgt. Randy Reynolds, Patrol West, to do a line up with the employees from the store.

Sgt. Zajkowski then contacted the Robbery Section and Detective Eddie Melon-Moran was called in to interview the suspects.

Detective Melon-Moran interviewed both suspects and then booked them into jail for aggravated robbery.

Officer Klumpp's intelligence, devotion to duty and knowledge of his assigned patrol beat were instrumental in the successful apprehension and subsequent charging in this case.